

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) A method of treating ophthalmic infections, which comprises topically applying to the eye a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an antimicrobial effective amount of moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle therefor.

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the composition further comprises a steroidal or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

13. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent comprises a steroidal agent.

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein the steroidal agent comprises a glucocorticoid.

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of dexamethasone, rimexolone, prednisolone, fluorometholone, hydrocortisone, mometasone, fluticasone, beclormethasone, flunisolide, triamcinolone, budesonide, and combinations thereof.

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the glucocorticoid comprises dexamethasone.

17. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the glucocorticoid comprises a 21-ether derivative of dexamethasone.

18. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the glucocorticoid comprises a 21-benzyl ether derivative of dexamethasone.

19. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent comprises a non-steroidal agent selected from the group consisting of prostaglandin H synthetase inhibitors, cyclooxygenase type II selective inhibitors, PAF antagonists, PDE IV inhibitors, and combinations thereof.

20. (previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the non-steroidal agent comprises a prostaglandin H synthetase inhibitor.

21. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20, wherein the prostaglandin H synthetase inhibitor comprises nepafenac.

22. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20, wherein the prostaglandin H synthetase comprises ketorolac.

23. (previously presented) A method according to claim 20, wherein the prostaglandin H synthetase comprises diclofenac.

24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the non-steroidal agent comprises a cyclooxygenase type II selective inhibitor.

25. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of a condition selected from the group consisting of conjunctivitis, keratitis, blepharitis, dacryocystitis, hordeolum, corneal ulceration, and combinations thereof.

26. (currently amended) A method according to any one of claims 11-25, wherein the composition contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof at a concentration of 0.1 to 1.0 wt. %.

27. (previously presented) A method according to any one of claims 11-24, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with an ophthalmic surgical procedure.

28. (new) A method according to any one of claims 11-25, wherein the composition contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof at a concentration of greater than 0.1 wt. %.

29. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the composition contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof at a concentration of at least 0.35 wt. %.

30. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the composition contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof at a concentration of about 0.35 wt. %.

31. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the composition contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof at a concentration of 0.35 to 1 wt. %.

32. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of conjunctivitis.

33. (new) A method according to claim 29, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of conjunctivitis.

34. (new) A method according to claim 30, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of conjunctivitis.

35. (new) A method according to claim 31, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of conjunctivitis.

36. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition is a liquid that contains sodium chloride.

37. (new) A method according to claim 36, wherein the composition further comprises a viscosity enhancing agent and a surfactant.

38. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition has a pH in the range of from 4.5 to 8.0.

39. (new) A method according to claim 38, wherein the composition has a pH in the range of from 5.5 to 8.0.

40. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition has an osmotic value compatible with the aqueous humor of the eye and ophthalmic tissue and in the range of from about 200 to about 400 milliosmoles per kilogram of water.

41. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition has an osmotic value compatible with the aqueous humor of the eye and ophthalmic tissue and in the range of from about 200 to about 300 milliosmoles per kilogram of water.

42. (new) A method according to claim 41, wherein the osmotic value is about 300 milliosmoles per kilogram of water.

43. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition contains a preservative at a concentration of from 0.001 to 1.0 wt. %.

44. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition is a sterile solution provided in a multi-dose form.

45. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of conjunctivitis.

46. (new) A method according to claim 45, wherein the composition inhibits the growth of *S. aureus* and contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof in an amount sufficient to provide a moxifloxacin concentration in the lacrimal fluid and aqueous humor of the eye of at least about 0.13 micrograms per milliliter.

47. (new) A method according to claim 45, wherein the composition inhibits the growth of *S. epidermidis* and contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof in an amount sufficient to provide a moxifloxacin concentration in the lacrimal fluid and aqueous humor of the eye of at least about 0.25 micrograms per milliliter.

48. (new) A method according to claim 45, wherein the composition inhibits the growth of *S. pneumoniae* and contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof in an amount sufficient to provide a moxifloxacin concentration in the lacrimal fluid and aqueous humor of the eye of at least about 0.25 micrograms per milliliter.

49. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of keratitis and wherein the composition inhibits the growth of *P.*

aeruginosa and contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof in an amount sufficient to provide a moxifloxacin concentration in the lacrimal fluid and aqueous humor of the eye of at least about 8 micrograms per milliliter.

50. (new) A method according to claim 45, wherein the composition inhibits the growth of *H. influenzae* and contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof in an amount sufficient to provide a moxifloxacin concentration in the lacrimal fluid and aqueous humor of the eye of at least about 0.06 micrograms per milliliter.

51. (new) A method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the composition is a sterile solution having a pH in the range of from 4.5 to 8.0; wherein the composition has a pH and an osmotic value compatible with the aqueous humor of the eye and ophthalmic tissues, including tissues that may have been compromised as the result of preexisting disease, trauma, surgery or other physical conditions, said osmotic value being in the range of from about 200 to about 400 milliosmoles per kilogram of water; wherein the composition contains moxifloxacin or a pharmaceutically useful hydrate or salt thereof at a concentration of 0.35 wt. % to 1 wt. %.

52. (new) A method according to claim 51, wherein the pH is from 5.5 to 8.

53. (new) A method according to claim 51, wherein the osmotic value is about 300.

54. (new) A method according to claim 51, wherein the solution also contains sodium chloride.

55. (new) A method according to claim 54, wherein the solution also contains a viscosity enhancing agent and a surfactant.

56. (new) A method according to claim 51, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with the treatment of conjunctivitis.

57. (new) A method according to claim 55, wherein the composition inhibits the growth of at least one pathogen selected from the group consisting of *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *S. pneumoniae*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *H. influenzae*.

58. (new) A method according to claim 51, wherein the composition is applied to the eye in connection with an ophthalmic surgical procedure.